



UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
STATION PLACE  
100 F STREET, NE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20549-2465

Office of FOIA Services

July 23, 2019

Mr. Taylor Amarel  
MuckRock News  
Dept MR 77371  
411A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02144

Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552  
Request No. **19-02662-FOIA**

Dear Mr. Amarel:

This is the final response to your July 23, 2019 request for "[a]ll emails sent to, from, or copied to pezzarossin@sec.gov containing any of the following non-case-sensitive key-strings: 'backlog,' 'delay,' or 'Office of the Whistleblower' within the past 6 months."

I can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any records responsive to your request. If such records were to exist, they would be exempt from disclosure pursuant to FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). Under Exemption 6 the release of this type of information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. By outlining the provisions of this exemption, I do not mean to imply in any way that records responsive to your request exist.

I am the deciding official with regard to this determination. You have the right to appeal my decision to the SEC's General Counsel under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6), 17 CFR § 200.80(f)(1). The appeal must be received within ninety (90) calendar days of the date of this adverse decision. Your appeal must be in writing, clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal," and should identify the requested records. The appeal may include facts and authorities you consider appropriate.

You may file your appeal by completing the online Appeal form located at [https://www.sec.gov/forms/request\\_appeal](https://www.sec.gov/forms/request_appeal), or mail your appeal to the Office of FOIA Services of the Securities and Exchange Commission located at Station Place, 100 F Street NE,

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Mail Stop 2465, Washington, D.C. 20549, or deliver it to Room 1120 at that address.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at [sifordm@sec.gov](mailto:sifordm@sec.gov) or (202) 551-7201. You may also contact the SEC's FOIA Public Service Center at [foiapa@sec.gov](mailto:foiapa@sec.gov) or (202) 551-7900. For further assistance you can contact a SEC FOIA Public Liaison by calling (202) 551-7900 or visiting <https://www.sec.gov/oso/help/foia-contact.html>.

SEC FOIA Public Liaisons are supervisory staff within the Office of FOIA Services. They can assist FOIA requesters with general questions or concerns about the SEC's FOIA process or about the processing of their specific request.

Finally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA dispute resolution services it offers. OGIS can be reached at 1-877-684-6448 or via e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov). Information concerning services offered by OGIS can be found at their website at [Archives.gov](https://www.archives.gov). Please note that contacting the FOIA Public Liaison or OGIS does not stop the 90-day appeal clock and is not a substitute for filing an administrative appeal.

Sincerely,



Mark P. Siford  
Counsel to the Director/Chief FOIA Officer  
Office of Support Operations